

PREPARATIONS FOR AFRICAN TRIP

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man, absolutely upright, absolutely
disinterested and fear-
less. In leaving, I have the profound
satisfaction of know-
ing that he will do all in his power to further
every one of
the great causes for which I have fought and
that he will
persevere in every one of the great
governmental policies
in which I most firmly believe. Therefore
nothing what-
ever is lost by my having refused to run for a
third term,
and much is gained.

⁴ * "Washington and Lincoln set the standard
of conduct
for the public servants of this people. They
showed how
men of the strongest type could also possess
all the disin-
terested, all the unselfish, devotion to duty and
to the inter-
ests of their fellow countrymen that we have
a right to
expect, but can only hope to see in the very
highest type
of public servant. At however great a
distance, I have
been anxious to follow in their footsteps, and
anxious that,
however great the difference in degree, my
service to the
Nation should be approximately the same
in kind as
theirs."

To his friend, Mr, Strachey of the London
Spectator, he
wrote on November 28, 1908, giving his views
on the use of
ex-Presidents:

"When people have spoken to me as to what
America
should do with its ex-Presidents, I have always
answered
that there was one ex-President as to whom
they need not
concern themselves in the least, .because I
would do for
myself. It would be to me personally an
unpleasant thing
to be pensioned and given some honorary

position. I emphatically do not desire to clutch at the fringe of departing greatness. Indeed, to me there is something rather attractive, something in the way of living up to a proper democratic ideal, in having a President go out of office just as I shall go, and become absolutely and without reservation a private man, and do any honorable work which he finds to do. My first work will be to go to Alriea for the National Museum.

"I am fifty, I have led a very sedentary life for ten years,